



IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1-30 as indicated below. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A display control device for controlling to display ~~[[of]]~~ pictures, which are from a plurality of signal sources connected to signal lines ~~[[on]]~~, in a plurality of display areas on a screen respectively, said display control device comprising:

an attributes information memory, which stores display attributes information for each of the plurality of display areas; and

a notification unit, which notifies the plurality of signal sources connected to the signal lines of each of the stored display attributes information.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 1, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ display attributes information is created or changed according to ~~settings~~ a setting of the ~~plurality of a display~~ ~~[[areas]]~~ area.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 1, wherein a notification by said notification ~~[[means]]~~ unit is performed synchronously with a change in an ~~[[input]]~~ inputted picture signal.

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Claim 4 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 1, wherein a notification by said notification [[means]] unit is performed synchronously with at least one of:

a change in a number of signals on a network comprising the signal lines; and  
a change in an attribute of a signal on the network.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 1, wherein notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in size or position of a display area of an [[input]] inputted picture on the screen.

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Claim 6 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 1, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in [[the]] size or position of a display area on the screen.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 1, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in usage of a display area.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 1, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in content of an [[input]] inputted picture.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A display control device for controlling [[for]]  
to display [[of]] pictures, which are from a plurality of signal sources connected to signal lines,  
[[on]] in a plurality of display areas on a screen respectively, said display control device  
comprising:

an obtaining unit, which obtains identification signals relating to pictures from  
the plurality of ~~signals~~ signal sources;

a display selection information creating unit, which creates display selection  
information based on the obtained identification signals;

a display selection unit, which appropriates the pictures to the plurality of  
display areas according to the created display selection information; and

a notification unit, which notifies the plurality of signal sources connected to  
the signal lines of the created display selection information.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 9,  
further comprising:

an image memory, which stores a plurality of pictures [[input]] inputted from  
the plurality of signal sources connected to the signal lines; and

an area securing unit, which secures a storage area for storing each of the  
plurality of pictures in said image memory, according to the created display selection  
information.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the display selection information is created or changed according to ~~settings~~ a setting of ~~the plurality of a display~~ [[areas]] area.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim ~~[[9]]~~ 11, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in the display selection information.

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Claim 13 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in [[input]] inputted pictures.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in a number of [[input]] inputted pictures.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification [[means]] unit is performed ~~on a network~~ synchronously with at least one of:

a change in a number of signals on a network comprising the signal lines; and  
a change in an attribute of a signal.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in size or position of a display area of an  inputted picture on the screen.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A display control device according to claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in size or position of a display area on the screen.

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Claim 18 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in usage of a display area.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in content of an  inputted picture.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in a positional relation of a plurality of picture-in-picture screens on the screen.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are identification numbers provided to the plurality of signal sources.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are communication addresses provided to the plurality of signal sources.

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Claim 23 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are identification numbers or communication addresses provided for an output mode of the plurality of signal sources.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are identification numbers or communication addresses provided for an output channel of the plurality of signal sources.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are identification numbers or communication addresses provided for the pictures.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A display control device according to Claim 9,

wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are identification numbers or communication addresses provided to users of the plurality of signal sources ~~[[of]]~~ for the pictures.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A display control system for controlling to display ~~[[of]]~~ pictures, which are from a plurality of signal sources connected to signal lines ~~[[on]]~~, in a plurality of display areas on a screen respectively, said system comprising a display control device that includes:

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cont an attributes information memory, which stores display attributes information for each of the plurality of display areas;

an obtaining unit, which obtains identification signals relating to pictures from the plurality of signal sources;

a display selection information creating unit, which creates display selection information based on the obtained identification signals;

a display selection unit, which appropriates the pictures to the plurality of display areas according to the created display selection information; and

a notification unit, which notifies the plurality of signal sources connected to the signal lines of each of the stored display attributes information and the created display selection information,

wherein each of the plurality of signal sources comprises a transmitting unit, which transmits picture signals corresponding to a display area, based on ~~notified~~ the display

attributes information and the display selection information notified by said notification unit.

Claim 28 (currently amended): A display control system according to Claim 27, wherein the transmitting unit suppresses an amount of information of the picture signals, based on the display attributes information and the display selection information notified by said notification unit, and transmits the picture signals ~~of which the~~ whose amount of information has been suppressed.

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Claim 29 (currently amended): A display control method of a display control device, for controlling to display ~~[[of]]~~ pictures, which are from a plurality of signal sources connected to signal lines ~~[[on]]~~, in a plurality of display areas on a screen ~~of a display control device~~ respectively, said method comprising~~[[:]]~~ the ~~following~~ steps executed of:

at the display control device:

storing display attributes information for each of the plurality of display areas;

obtaining identification signals relating to pictures from the plurality of signals sources;

creating display selection information based on the obtained identification information;

appropriating the pictures to the plurality of display areas according to the created display selection information ~~created in said creating step~~; and



notifying the plurality of signal sources connected to the signal lines of each of the stored display attributes information ~~stored in said storing step~~ and the created display selection information, and

~~the following step executed at~~ each of the plurality of signal sources:

transmitting picture signals corresponding to ~~said the plurality of a~~ display ~~[[areas]]~~ area, based on the display attributes information ~~notified in said notifying step~~ and the ~~created~~ display selection information notified in said notifying step.

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Claim 30 (currently amended): A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for implementing a method of a display control device, for controlling to display ~~[[of]]~~ pictures, which are from a plurality of signal sources connected to signal lines ~~[[on]]~~, in a plurality of display areas on a screen respectively, the program comprising:

code for a storage step of storing display attributes information for each of the plurality of display areas;

code for an obtaining step of obtaining identification signals relating to picture signals from the plurality of signal sources;

code for a creating step of creating display selection information based on the obtained identification information;

code for an appropriating step of appropriating the pictures to the plurality of display areas according to the created display selection information; and

code for a notifying step of notifying the plurality of signal sources connected

*all  
could* to the signal lines of each of the stored display attributes information and the created display selection information.

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